

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
February 4, 2013

A Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the District) was called to order on February 4, 2013 at 4:33 pm by Commissioner Brooks at the Fishers Island Community Center.

Present were Commissioners Brooks, Edwards, Rafferty, Rugg and Wall. Also present were Manager Donald Lamb, Assistant Manager Gordon Murphy and 4 members of the public.

Commissioner Brooks opened the meeting and declared a quorum present.

Public Comments:

Ryan Rod, representing the Fishers Island Softball League, suggested the District softball team, which plays the Hay Harbor Club annually, be invited to be a part of the Fishers Island Softball League. He pointed out that an island goal is involve people in the league and to have them be involved in the island. The more teams, the stronger the league. He suggested the softball schedule could be set to accommodate the ferry schedule and pointed out that the District team's games could be scheduled for Thursday nights when 4 boats are running, to get the players to and from the island between the hours of play, usually 5:00-8:00. Don Lamb will talk to Steve Burke and include Dave Dennison, the League's Commissioner to see if this can be worked out for the 2013 season.

Karla Heath asked for an updated schedule of FIFD Commissioners meetings to be posted on line.

Commissioner Brooks asked about the Ferry District resident application of Bridget Wall on behalf of her mother for whom she is responsible. The application has been received by management for review.

Minutes:

Minutes of the meeting held on January 22, 2013 were approved.

MOVED by: Commissioner Rugg

SECONDED by: Commissioner Rafferty

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Minutes of the meeting held on January 29, 2013 were approved.

MOVED by: Commissioner Rafferty

SECONDED by: Commissioner Wall

AYES: 4

NAYES: 0

Abstained: Commissioner Rugg

Commissioner Rugg asked under what circumstances are special meetings/executive sessions called. According to the Open Meetings law a specific reason needs to be identified to have a special meeting. Once established, other items should not be added to the meeting's discussion. The Legal Committee will review and report back.

Warrants:

A list of outstanding obligations of the District was received and discussed. All invoices were declared to abide by Procurement Policy. At the conclusion of the discussion, a resolution was made to pay the outstanding obligation totaling \$34,571.15.

MOVED by: Commissioner Rafferty

SECONDED by: Commissioner Wall

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Manager's Report:**1. North Ramp:**

Mr. Lamb reported that he is in contact with Charles Brown of GNCB twice a week and everything is moving forward. They are waiting for Mattern Construction to execute the contract. The bonding company is apprised of the status. Last Thursday, January 31, Mattern brought over the fence and other material to begin the project. Commissioner Wall reported the underground utilities are OK, the sewer main and storm drains are not an issue, adding "if they hit it, we'll fix it".

2. Airport Clean-up and Lighting:

Mr. Murphy reported he has been working with FEMA to resolve expenses related to airport property damage caused by Hurricane Sandy. He has also reached out to island residents flying private and charter planes on a regular basis to form an 'airport users group' which will be help to determine "where the airport should be heading" as far as a viable island transportation access alternative for private and charter flights.

Commissioner Rugg asked when the airport consultant was returning. This has not been scheduled yet.

Commissioner Edwards inquired about the FEMA report. Mr. Murphy said the 2nd report was completed and reported to the Town of Southold the week of January 28. He is also in contact with FAA.

Mr. Murphy reported the refurbished road to Race Point from Whistler Avenue will be opened after the soft material settles and becomes more stable. People are still driving on the runway so additional barriers will be placed. Parking areas are being created, as parking at the Race in non-4-wheel vehicles is not possible due to the rock movement of Hurricane Sandy.

The Commissioners asked about the Town of Southold's South Beach burn pile. It is unknown when the burn is scheduled.

Commissioner Brooks inquired about the District's freight shed building roof. The roof is slate and may be leaking. Not currently budgeted for repair, but management will review.

3. District Resident Card

Commissioner Brooks inquired about the 4-month waiting period for island residents to receive the resident card for the District discount. A discussion ensued whether this was a commission or management issue.

Mr. Murphy: In some cases, although it is decided to be a management decision, there may be exceptions when management would request guidance from the Commissioners before deciding.

Mr. Lamb will discuss the resident application in question with Commissioner Wall and Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Lamb would like management to alleviate the many problems the Commissioners run up against. He wants management to “take on the day to day issues that come up”. This protects the Commissioners from the everyday operating minutiae.

A discussion followed on the District charges to trucks of different lengths and capacity delivering fuel oil to the island.

Commissioner Wall: The history of costs to fuel trucks ends with favoring a discount price for island-based companies’ fuel delivery.

Mr. Murphy: End user vs. delivery method – price is determined by who is getting the fuel.

Commissioner Rafferty: Intent is to treat Goose Island Fuel (formerly Mobile) and Texaco the same.

5. M/V Race Point Ferry – Dry Dock Repair:

Mr. Lamb reported the Coast Guard inspection went well. Only 2 new items arose since RJ’s report. Plate welding was done. The Race Point is still in the water and scheduled to go into dry-dock soon. The repairs are on schedule for the ship to go back into service.

6. Union Negotiations

Commissioner Rugg confirmed that Mr. Lamb is ‘shepherding’ the CSEA/Union process. A discussion followed regarding full-time and part-time bargaining unit employees receiving raises and review from management. Legal Committee will review.

7. Freight System

Commissioner Rugg asked about Freight System. Mr. Lamb is working closely with Chrystal Cupp of UPS and management in Waterford operations. New system/track pad will scan anything (packages, lumber, etc.), can calculate freight charges and will notify Fishers Island Freight office that item is “on the boat”. Meetings will be ongoing.

8. Management and Personnel Review

Commissioners discussed the District Manager’s review schedule and Mr. Lamb reported on the implementation of review procedures for District personnel. For management a 6-month review was suggested as best practice modeled after Quality Performance Review and self-assessment – then 360-degree review of management with recommendations. Kardas Larsen will be contacted to consult on review ‘best practices’.

9. Human Resources:

Mr. Richard Hoch retired from the District on Thursday, January 31, 2013 after nearly 42 years of service. A party was held in the Waiting Room. Mr. Lamb is working on an article for the Fog Horn in recognition of Dick’s years with the District and history on the Island. Commissioner Edwards has a suggestion of an interviewer for the article.

The Fishers Island Ferry District is hosting the next Senior Luncheon on February 21st.

Mr. Richard Hoch has voluntarily resigned from the Ferry District with effect the end of the business day January 31, 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Richard Hoch is released from his freight agent appointment as of the end of business January 31, 2013.

MOVED by: Commissioner Rafferty
SECONDED by: Commissioner Edwards
AYES: All
NAYES: None

Mr. Lamb reported that he had interviewed three individuals for the Fishers Island based Freight Agent position. He would like the commissioners to confirm his choice in hiring Ms. Deborah Doucette.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Deborah Doucette is released from her clerical appointment as of the end of business January 31, 2013 and is appointed as a full time Freight Agent at a rate of \$14.00 per hour effective February 1, 2013.

MOVED by: Commissioner Rugg
SECONDED by: Commissioner Edwards
AYES: 4
NAYES: 1

Other:

Commissioner Rugg put forth the following resolutions:

RESOLVED – That this Board wishes to compliment Manager Donald Lamb and his management team for their exemplary service since Mr. Lamb joined us. He has stabilized a precarious leadership situation, earned the respect and support of the management team and employees and deployed sound judgment in the execution of his duties and responsibilities.

It is further RESOLVED that any recent written communication by a single Commissioner to the Manager is neither a reprimand nor a directive (which can only be issued by vote of the entire Board), and that the Manager is free to accept or ignore the contents of that written communication as he sees fit in the execution of his duties.

It is also RESOLVED that this Board acts together as a Board, and no individual Commissioner or Chairman of the Commissioners has any authority to direct the management to change or implement any policy, or any, fare, scheduling, safety, employee or maintenance decision, or to discuss such items with the public, but instead refer questions on such issues to the Manager.

It is additionally RESOLVED that no Commissioner has any power to discuss, influence, or vote on any issue in which he has any personal interest.

It is finally RESOLVED that the HR Committee of the Board will bring to the next meeting a draft procedure for periodic evaluation of the manager, and the reporting of the same to the Board of Commissioners.

A discussion followed.

Adopting the Resolution above was approved:

MOVED by: Commissioner Edwards

SECONDED by: Commissioner Rugg

AYES: 3

NAYES: 2

The Commissioners will have a work session Tuesday, February 5 to review schedules and rates.

Motion to adjourn 5:57 pm

Moved: Commissioner Rugg

Second: Commissioner Wall

Aye: All

The next scheduled meeting begins at 4:30pm Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at the Fishers Island Community Center.